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1   **Abstract**

2           A flexible frame arrangement for a CDMA wireless communications network is  
3 disclosed. A signal for transmission in the network includes several frames for  
4 transferring data between network nodes. At least one of the frames includes a  
5 hierarchical sub-frame structure having a physical layer frame and an interleaver  
6 block, a forward error control (FEC) block, and an automatic repeat request (ARQ)  
7 block. The sub-frame arrangement may be used in a spread spectrum wireless  
8 network such as CDMA2000 or W-CDMA. The FEC blocks transmit error control  
9 information and are subdivided into one or more of the ARQ blocks. Each ARQ  
10 block includes information bits and overhead bits such as cyclic redundancy code  
11 (CRC) bits and zero bits.

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